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Mr. DANIEL PERREAU's
NARRATIVE

OF HIS UNHAPPY CASE;

WHEREIN

Every particular Transaction between Mrs.
RUDD, his Brother, and himself,

FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF

Mr. DANIEL PERREAU'S

CONNEXION WITH

Mrs. R U D D,

UNTIL THE TIME OF HIS TRIAL,

Is most truly and candidly laid before
the Public;

TOGETHER WITH HIS

D E F E N C E.

PUBLISHED BY

H I M S E L F.

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NEAR YORK BUILDINGS.

MDCCLXXV.

[Price Two Shillings.]

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THE SECOND

BY J. L. F.

LONDON

PRINTED FOR T. BARNES, NO. 20, IN THE STRAND

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To the PUBLIC.

THAT the World may not be misinformed concerning the true State of an unhappy Case, which has so much engrossed the public Attention, I have presumed to think it not improper to lay before them the Narrative and Defence I had prepared for my Trial, but which however I did not use; my Brother having entered so largely into the Detail of that most horrid Train of Deception, whereby Mrs. *Rudd* has involved us both, in irretrievable Destruction. I had been taught to believe I should be first tried, but as it was ordered otherwise, perhaps unfortunately, and the Court were already possessed of the most essential Particulars of this iniquitous Affair, from having heard my Brother's Narrative, I conceived it would be intruding improperly on their Time, to enter into a second Narration: I therefore omitted to deliver it to the Court; but as I unhappily find that conscious Innocence has not been able to preserve me from the fatal Consequences of a most wicked Transaction, which I most solemnly declare, I was no more than the innocent Instrument, in the Hands of Mrs. *Rudd*, to perpetrate, I have thought it a Duty I owed to my Family and Connections, as well as to myself, to lay before the Public, a true State of my Case, and the Defence I meant to urge in my Justification, in Hopes that the World may be induced to do my Memory at least the Justice, to believe me to be what I most truly am, an *innocent and injured* though certainly a most *credulous Man*; and although a Jury of my Fellow Citizens, have not thought the presumptive Evidence which I was alone able to adduce from Mrs. *Rudd's* consum-

consummate Art, in the prudent Foresight with which she transacted every minute Matter in this dreadful Business, sufficient to authorize them to discredit the Facts which must necessarily appear against me, from the Part I had, by my infatuated Affection and Confidence in Mrs. Rudd's Integrity, been induced to act in this iniquitous Matter, tho' really without the most distant Idea of defrauding any Creature living, I trust that when the Case I now submit to the Public, shall have been considered with Candour and Attention, that the World will think less unfavourably with regard to the Honesty of my Intentions.

I have presumed to publish the whole Narrative of my Case and Defence, exactly in the Manner I meant to deliver it before the Court, neither shall I apologize for Inelegance of Language, or Incorrectness of Expression, as I presume neither can naturally be expected from a Person under such peculiar and poignant Distress as mine, who with the most perfect Innocence of Intention, Honesty, and Uprightness of Heart, am fallen a Victim to the diabolical Wickedness of a most treacherous Woman, and should certainly sink under the Weight of such accumulated Misery, did I not happily find some Support in that conscious Innocence, which with my dying Breath, I can boldly declare to the World, with a Confidence which Truth *only* can inspire.

DANIEL PERREAU.

[4]

C A S E.

ABOUT the month of April 1770, I was introduced by Mr. Garret Burton to Mrs. Rudd, who was then known by the name of Mrs. Gore, after which I frequently visited her, and at length became much attached to her; she lodged at this time at Mrs. Johnson's in Hollen-Street, Wardour-Street, Soho; and appeared to be much embarrassed in her circumstances, for she borrowed money from me at several times; and in one of my visits I found her arrested, at the suit of Mr. Ryder, a

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silk-mercator in Coventry-Street, for
 about 60/. which sum I paid for her;
 and as I found she was strongly
 pressed for another sum of about 80/.
 by Mr. Smith, a millener in St.
 James's-Street, I conceived her to be
 much involved in debt, and propos-
 ed to withdraw myself from any
 further connection: Mrs. Gore or
 Rudd appeared much affected by this
 resolution, entreated me to discharge
 her debts, which she said amounted
 to about 400/. including Mr. Smith's
 demand, and assured me, that she
 would use every means, and exert
 her utmost endeavours, by her future
 discretion, fidelity, and attachment
 to my interests, to requite me for such
 singular friendship. Having now
 imbibed a great degree of affection
 and regard for her, I unhappily ac-
 quiesced with her desire; and from
 this time, until I was fatally unde-
 ceived by finding myself plunged in
 the deepest gulph of misery and de-
 struction,

struction, I conceived I had every reason to be satisfied with her discretion, oeconomy, and apparent fidelity.

I had not yet been made acquainted that Mrs. Rudd had a husband still living; but about the month of October following, she was much alarmed, at being told that her husband, Mr. Rudd, had been enquiring for her, at her lodgings at Mrs. Johnson's in Hollen-Street, where I constantly discharged the expence of her board and lodging, &c. Mrs. Rudd now informed me, that her husband, Mr. Rudd, was a most debauched, drunken man, who had used her with the greatest barbarity; that she had been compelled to claim the protection of the law against his cruelty, and that her prosecution had induced him to abscond. She appeared exceedingly apprehensive of Mr. Rudd's designs, and earnestly en-

treated my protection; wherefore, in order to render her as easy as possible, I removed her to other lodgings, which I took for her at Mr. Temple's in Parliament-Street, Westminster, where she remained until the Christmas following, by which time Mr. Rudd had quitted the kingdom; and I then received her into my house in Pall-Mall-Court, where she remained, under the name of Mrs. Gore.

In our conversations she often took occasion to speak of her family, and particularly of her uncle Stewart, who she represented to be a gentleman of fortune in the north of Ireland. She also frequently mentioned Mr. James Adair of Soho-Square, who she said was a relation of hers, and to whom she was under the highest obligations; for his friendships on many occasions, but most particularly for his protection against the savage brutality

brutality of her husband; but she frequently lamented her great unhappiness in having lost this valuable friend; without, however, at any time explaining to me the cause by which this misfortune was occasioned.

In the month of July 1771,* Mrs. Rudd brought me my eldest daughter; an event, which added to the great satisfaction I received from her engaging manners and behaviour, so captivated my affections, that I truly lamented the insurmountable bar which prevented a legal union with her: for I can truly say, on my part, that I fervently wished Providence might one day be pleased to permit this union; and that we lived together in a course of uninterrupted harmony, and apparently still encreasing affection.

* The 30th of July.

In

In the summer of the year 1772, Mr. John Stewart, who I understood to be a cousin of Mrs. Rudd's, and son of her uncle Stewart before mentioned, arrived from Ireland, and visited us frequently at my house. He expressed great satisfaction to find Mrs. Rudd in so comfortable a situation; told us, that her husband Mr. Rudd lived in the most disorderly, and irregular manner; and expressed it as his idea, that it was improbable he should ever come to disturb our tranquillity.

After Mr. Stewart's arrival, Mrs. Rudd frequently told me she had great hopes of being restored to the friendship of Mr. James Adair; and one day informed me, with much seeming pleasure, that her cousin Stewart had been desired by Mr. J. Adair, to bring her to the house of Mr. Thomas Cairns, a merchant in the

the city, and that he, Mr. James Adair, wished greatly to see her, he would meet her there in the evening at tea.

Mrs. Rudd accordingly went with Mr. Stewart to Mr. Cairns, who I found was likewise a confidant of hers: on her return she appeared to be exceedingly happy, telling me she had had the so much wished for interview, with her worthy friend Mr. James Adair, who had, as she assured me, received her with the warmest friendship, and an affection truly paternal; saying, he would frequently visit her in Pall-Mall Court.

Soon after this circumstance, Mr. Stewart returned to Ireland; and Mrs. Rudd told me, that Mr. James Adair had visited her at my house more than once, but had stayed only for a moment; she also frequently

quently said, she had met him by accident in her walks; always assuring me that he interested himself most warmly in her affairs, and expressed his feelings for the sufferings she had endured from the barbarous cruelty of her husband, in the strongest manner; telling her, he would not fail to take the first opportunity to represent her situation to her uncle Stewart, in such a manner as would be serviceable to her.

It appears to me to have been at this period that Mrs. Rudd began to form the horrid plan of iniquity, whose explosion has overwhelmed me with superlative misery. In the month of July 1772, Mrs. Rudd produced 500*l*. saying, Mr. James Adair had been with her, and brought her this sum; telling her that he was directed to pay it into her hands by her uncle Stewart, who

who had informed him that it was a legacy left by her grandmother in trust to him, to be paid to her whenever he should perceive she was able to enjoy it, without molestation from her husband.

In the space of about three or four months, she also produced about 400*l*. more, which she said arose from presents which Mr. J. Adair had at several times made to the child; telling me, that when that gentleman called in to visit her, he frequently gave the child a bank-note, which she said she supposed to be meant as a delicate and genteel mode of bestowing favours on herself.

Mrs. Rudd now told me that Mr. J. Adair was frequent in his visits, and that he repeatedly asked her whether her situation with me was a matter of necessity or inclination; to which, as she said, she constantly

replied, that no other person could make her so happy; that no consideration should induce her to separate from me; and that as she had one child by me, and was at that time pregnant with another, it was utterly impossible to preserve any degree of reputation in any other than her present situation. When thus satisfied, Mr. J. Adair, as she assured me, signified to her, that it was his intention, to give the child she already had 2000*l*. and also to do something for the one she was then pregnant with; intimating that he meant to settle such donations upon the children; but that Mrs. Rudd and myself should enjoy the interest thereof during our lives.

In a short time after this, Mrs. Rudd acquainted me that Mr. J. Adair had often pressed her to tell him candidly whether she had any debts which were unknown to me, as he would

would most willingly extricate her from any such embarrassment; because he wished me to permit her to use my name, and assume, as far as possible, the appearance of my wife; and on this condition Mr. J. Adair had, she said, determined to give her what he termed a-pretty little fortune; and added that as her uncle Stewart proposed to introduce her to a very respectable part of her family in Scotland, with whom she had hitherto been unacquainted, Mr. J. Adair had observed, that when she had been so introduced, and should bear the character of my wife, he could then bring her again acquainted with his lady, Mrs. Adair; by which means she would be able to form proper connections, and to enter again into genteel society.

My affection for Mrs. Rudd, added to the obligations I conceived myself under to Mr. J. Adair, and the

very great advantages Mrs. Rudd made me believe we were likely to derive from his great and singular friendship, induced me to acquiesce with his desires, and I accordingly permitted Mrs. Rudd to assume every possible appearance of my wife, and take the name of Mrs. Perreau, from this period, (the latter end of the summer 1772) I publicly called Mrs. Rudd my wife,

I acquainted my brother with the reasons which induced me to act in this manner; for he was not ignorant of the insurmountable bar to the possibility of a union to which he knew I had no objection. The rest of my acquaintance I left to suppose we were actually married, which was absolutely necessary to comply fully with the wishes, as I conceived, of Mr. J. Adair. To Dr. Brooke I mentioned, in confidence, the friendship of Mr. James Adair.

I must

I must observe, that I thought it very extraordinary that Mr. James Adair, who, as Mrs. Rudd informed me, was so frequent in his visits, should always choose the time when I was from home, and never favour me with an interview. This was a circumstance I often noticed to Mrs. Rudd, and frequently intimated to her, that as I thought it highly incumbent on me, so I ardently wished to introduce myself to that gentleman, in order to make my acknowledgments, and to assure him of the heart-felt gratitude I entertained for such singular marks of friendship as he had been pleased to confer upon us; but Mrs. Rudd constantly prevented me from doing this, by solemnly assuring me, that Mr. James Adair had always charged her in the strictest manner to forbid this, as she valued the continuance of his good offices; adding, that he had determined to avoid an
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interview with me, until he had finally fulfilled his benevolent intentions with regard to us and our children, when he intended to fix a time for our mutual introduction to each other, after which, he said, he hoped we should live on terms of the most intimate and friendly intercourse. I must acknowledge that this appeared to be a most extraordinary piece of delicate singularity in Mr. James Adair; yet, as she constantly insisted, whenever I mentioned this subject, that he was immoveably fixed in his resolution, I desisted from my design of introducing myself to him, but fervently wished for the time to arrive, when I should be allowed to pay some part of the vast debt I owed to so valuable a friend as I conceived Mr. James Adair to be.

In the course of this summer, I had, by Mrs. Rudd's directions, bespoke

spoke a coach to be made, for she had brought me word that Mr. J. Adair had told her that it was her uncle Steward's order, that she should have one built for him, as he proposed to be in town the beginning of the following winter, and meant to make use of it to return home through Scotland, where he intended to take his niece, Mrs. Rudd, and introduce her to that part of her family, with whom she had hitherto been unacquainted.

In October 1772, Mrs. Rudd brought me a son, and during the time of her confinement, she told me that Mr. James Adair frequently paid visits to her; that he at sometimes desired the child might have his name, and purposed to be a sponsor. At others, she said, he would not have it so, lest a knowledge of such a circumstance might be misrepresented to Mrs. Adair, and cause uneasiness,

easiness to her. I therefore gave the child the name of Stewart, conceiving such a compliment could not be disagreeable to her uncle Stewart.

When Mrs. Rudd got up again, she acquainted me that her uncle Stewart had resolved to introduce her to her relations in Scotland before he came to London, and had therefore ordered her to give him the meeting for that purpose at Edinburgh. Having determined to comply with her uncle's request, she soon after informed me that her friend Mr. J. Adair had kindly undertaken to furnish the expences of this journey, that I might not be put to any inconvenience thereby, and produced about 300*l*. which she said Mr. J. Adair had presented her with for that purpose.

When Mrs. Rudd set out, she made a party of friends to fill a coach :

coach: I attended her into Cannon-Street, where the company had appointed to meet, and had here, for the first time, the pleasure to see her cousin Cairns, who has since frequently visited us at my house.

I had frequent letters from Mrs. Rudd, after her arrival in Scotland, wherein she expressed the highest satisfaction at the cordial reception given her by her uncle Stewart and the rest of her friends and relations, among whom she particularly mentioned Lady Agnew and her daughters, as nearly related to Lord Galloway, with several other branches of the Stewart family. Mrs. Rudd's stay in Scotland was about five weeks; but when she returned, her uncle Stewart did not accompany her, nor any other of her relations, except only Mr. John Stewart, her cousin, who has been already mentioned.

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After

After Mrs. Rudd's return to London, I was made exceedingly unhappy by her uneasiness of mind, occasioned by her fears of losing the valuable friendship of Mr. James Adair: her apprehensions, she said, arose from having been made acquainted that Mr. James Adair had received several anonymous letters, tending to traduce her character and mine; and to inform him, that his design to bestow a small fortune upon Mrs. Rudd had been penetrated. In these letters, she said, we were represented to Mr. James Adair, as totally unworthy of his regard. She likewise observed to me, that she perceived herself watched whenever she went abroad. After some time, however, she said that Mr. James Adair had discovered many of the malicious insinuations in these letters to be void of truth; and that if, upon further search, he found the rest to be
equally

equally groundless, he had said, he would still most chearfully comply with his original good intentions in our favour.

About this time, I found my house also beset with a number of mean and impertinent enquirers, who sometimes came to ask for Mrs. Gore, at others for Mrs. Rudd, and Mrs. Perreau; I likewise, received many scandalous and vulgar letters by the penny-post, containing insinuations to the discredit of Mrs. Rudd; some of them repeatedly declaring her infamous, but specifying no particular charge. Other letters required a sum of money to discover a secret of consequence to me: and others again said, that copies of the same had been sent to Mr. James Adair, but as none had any name subscribed; I conceived them to be the efforts of malicious inveteracy against

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her;

her ; and though perhaps I had done well to have taken more notice of them, my confidence was so rooted in her fidelity and truth, that I utterly disregarded them.

There was, however, one letter to which I gave a little more attention : this was brought by the penny-post, addressed to Mrs. Perreau. I happened to be at home and alone when it arrived, and, supposing it to be of the nature of those many impertinent ones I had lately received, I opened it, and found it to contain a card from Mr. Salvador, requesting Mrs. Perreau to furnish him with the address of — no name being mentioned. There was several unintelligible sentences in the card, which I could not comprehend, so that I should have thought this anonymous, as well as the several others I had received, had I not recollected a circumstance which

which made me think it probable it was really from Mr. Salvador,

I had in conversation often heard her mention, that before my connection with her, she had an epistolary correspondence with Mr. Salvador, which afforded her more pleasure and amusement than any comedy or novel she had ever read. The recollection of this particular determined me to wait upon Mr. Salvador unknown to her; this resolution I executed the next morning. Mr. Salvador appeared greatly confused when I told him my name, and desired him to explain the meaning of his card; and all the satisfaction or explanation I could procure from him, was, that the meaning of his card was only to desire Mrs. Rudd would inform him how to direct to her sister, as he wanted much to write to her. I assured him, that as far as I knew, she had
no

no sister, which however he did not seem to believe; and as I found all his answers so exceedingly mysterious, that I was not likely to procure any satisfactory information from him, I took my leave. After this interview with Mr. Salvador, I acquainted Mrs. Rudd of the matter, and desired she would explain this affair to me. She declared she never had any connection or correspondence with Mr. Salvador since she became connected with me; and said, that she suspected the matter had originated from the malice of her enemies, who had represented her (Mrs. Rudd) as Mrs. Gore, or the sister of Mrs. Gore, in order to expose her. I must own this occurrence gave me some degree of uneasiness, which was aggravated by the impossibility I found of unraveling the mystery.

In the month of June 1773; Mrs. Rudd informed me, with seeming happiness, that Mr. James Adair had at length unravelled this malicious affair, and found it to originate from some wicked people, who having been her former acquaintance, were exasperated against her because she did not still continue a familiarity with them, since she had taken the name and character of Mrs. Perreau; and as she now assured me that we were perfectly reinstated in the good opinion of our worthy friend and benefactor, I made myself happy that this affair had taken so favourable a turn.

In July she told me, that Mr. J. Adair was obliged to go to Ireland upon business, which would detain him a month, that he had left a confidential servant (*Robert*) in town, who was to receive a sum of money, amounting to about 1000*l.*
from

from different people, which sum Mr. James Adair had directed him to pay to Mrs. Rudd; she said however she was not to receive this money, unless she was disappointed in receiving the like sum from Mr. Kerr or Carr, a factor in Watling Street, who owed the money to Mr. James Adair, and had promised to pay it to Mrs. Rudd in ten days.

Mrs. Rudd was now frequently called out of company, and she told me it was to speak to Mr. *Robert*, who often called upon her concerning this business; she also went several times to Mr. James Adair's house in Soho, (the family being out of town) to consult, as she said, with Mr. *Robert*, on the before-mentioned matter. She told me, however, that she had little reason to hope Robert would be able to get this money; and that her whole dependence

pendence was therefore on Mr. Kerr. She did not receive this money from either of the parties, but I understood it was intended for the purpose of buying furniture for a house which she told me Mr. James Adair desired I would take in Grosvenor-Place; and which I treated with a builder about by her directions as I conceived, from Mr. James Adair, but not agreeing with the builder's terms, the treaty ended.

It may not be improper to remark a circumstance, which occurred during the time Mrs. Rudd was engaged concerning the 1000*l.* just mentioned. She informed me, that Mr. Kerr or Carr, the factor alreadymentioned, in Watling-Street, had once offered her notes for the 1000*l.* one of which she said happened to be Salvador's for 500*l.* not then due; but that Mr. Robert would not receive them as payment with-

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out

out first consulting Mr. William Adair; that on this occasion, she went to Mr. William Adair's office for the first time with Robert, and Mr. William Adair desired her to go with the note herself, as it was probable if he (Mr. William Adair) appeared, Mr. Salvador would require indulgence for time, but to a lady he would certainly make a point of giving the money. Mrs. Rudd assured me she took this advice, and did go; but that Mr. Salvador could not pay the money. He however, she said, took that opportunity to enquire after her sister Gore, absolutely (as she declared) not knowing herself to be the identical person he had been used to visit a few years before in Hollen-Street. She likewise informed me after this, that she was embarrassed to avoid Mr. Salvador's enquiries, which she told me, had since her interview with him been frequent both by notes and

and messages ; and, as I was assured by her, she was at last obliged to request Mr. James Adair to go to Mr. Salvador, to prevail on him to desist from such improper behaviour ; which she said, he afterwards did : neither did I ever afterwards hear more of Mr. Salvador's writing or sending.

Mrs. Rudd informed me that Mr. James Adair proposed to establish me in some business, and that he had consulted with his friend Mr. William Adair concerning it, who she told me had agreed to furnish him upon security with a sufficient sum for that purpose ; because, as she said, Mr. James Adair could not, without making it known to his family, and creating much jealousy and uneasiness, advance a sufficient capital out of his own fortune.

It was about this time that she produced 150*l.* saying it was to pay for the coach that had been made near a year before. She said that her uncle used the *finesse* of ordering, her to bespeak a coach for him, but always intended it for us; adding that now Mr. James Adair desired we might use it, and that he would from thenceforth make us an allowance of 800*l.* *per annum*, until his design of fixing me in business should be carried into execution.

I must acknowledge that these numerous and most uncommon marks of Mr. James Adair's friendship astonished me; but surely it cannot be wonderful that I should believe them true, when it is considered that she constantly gave me the most substantial proofs of her veracity by the frequent sums of money she produced, and that my confidence
must

must have been confirmed so as to be little liable to be shaken by future doubts, when I found, as I afterwards did, that this allowance of 800*l. per annum* was regularly paid to Mrs. Rudd, who produced me the sums she received on that account.

In the beginning of August 1773, I was told by Mrs. Rudd, that Mr. Robert Adair, the surgeon, had avowed himself to be the author of the anonymous letters before mentioned; that this gentleman had great inveteracy against her, and as he perceived his letters had hitherto been ineffectual, he now openly appeared to confirm the truth of what had been therein asserted. She said Mr. Robert Adair was a most wicked man, but that she was nevertheless exceedingly fearful that the respectable character his specious manner had gained him, and the high degree

degree of credit he possessed with the family, would ruin her in the opinion of Mr. James Adair. She in this conversation told me a long story of the horrid wickedness of Mr. Robert Adair, and of the cruel and inhuman manner, in which he had used her ; saying he was the sole cause of her having formerly lost the friendship of Mr. James Adair, and of her being reduced to the state of embarrassment in which she was in Hollen-Street, when my acquaintance first commenced with her. As I always gave implicit credit to what she said, I regarded Mr. Robert Adair in a horrible and most detested light, thought him the worst of men, and advised her, by all means, to make her friend Mr. James Adair immediately acquainted with the particulars of his conduct towards her. This she informed me in a short time afterwards she had done, and that Mr. James Adair was

was now thoroughly convinced of his guilt, and determined to have no farther connection with so bad a man.

I began now to grow exceedingly uneasy, that I was not permitted to pay those acknowledgments which were so justly due, as I conceived, to Mr. James Adair; but when I mentioned this, she assured me, that he had told her the affair with Mr. Robert Adair, would oblige him to defer our mutual introduction; and that the uneasiness and jealousy of his family made it absolutely necessary to conceal his favours to us and our children, as much as possible; it was therefore his desire, that we should remain another year in Pall-Mall-Court, upon his allowance of 800*l.* per annum, which was paid to Mrs. Rudd, and by her produced regularly every quarter.

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In the month of September 1773, Mrs. Rudd had a fit of sickness, which occasioned me to remove her to Kentish Town, where we staid till the middle of November. About Christmas she told me, that Mr. James Adair had been again made very uneasy by his family on our account, by an anonymous letter sent to his son, which acquainted him with his father's extraordinary friendship to us: she added, that Mr. James Adair had directed her to write a letter to him, and send it, so that he might receive it at the time of dinner, requesting he would discount my note for 500*l.* or lend me that sum; and to say it was for the purpose of supplying her uncle Stewart with 1000*l.* which he had desired her to borrow.

Mr. James Adair's meaning in directing her to do this, she said, was, that if Mrs. Adair, or his son, should

should hear of any money matters between him and us, he should then be better able to make their minds easy, by saying this was the business. Mrs. Rudd did accordingly write a letter of this nature, which I saw her give to a servant, and order him to take it to Soho-Square; and she afterwards told me, that Mr. James Adair, had approved of what she had done.

In this artful and most plausible manner, did Mrs. Rudd proceed; step by step, to impose upon a man whom his infatuated affection had blinded; but in the month of February or March, 1774, she began to proceed to more dangerous extremities.

She now told me, that Mr. James Adair was determined to make my mind easy, and to render me assured of the money he meant to

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give

give us and our children ; for this purpose, she said, it was Mr. James Adair's orders that I should fill up a bond for 5000*l.* payable to me six months after date, in which his friend Mr. William Adair would join with him. As I did not perfectly well understand this business, I got Mr. Wilson a scrivener, to fill up such a bond, which I gave to Mrs. Rudd, and, in a day or two she returned it to me, executed by Messrs. James and William Adair, and witnessed by Arthur Jones and Thomas Hart ; the first of whom, she said, was Mr. William Adair's solicitor, and the other his upper servant.

About the month of March, Mr. John Adair of St. Albans-Street ; who I understand to be also a relation of Mrs. Rudd, introduced himself to our acquaintance ; visited us frequently afterwards,

wards, and often delivered Mrs. Rudd letters from Lady Agnew's family in Scotland. It is also proper to remark here, that from the time Mrs. Rudd returned from the visit to her friends in Scotland, she regularly received letters from them by the post, as well as from her uncle Stewart, many of which fell into my hands, and I found them to be exceedingly affectionate. Her cousin Mr. Cairns also, and several other respectable persons, with whom she had become acquainted in Scotland, frequently visited at our house; all which circumstances contributed to render her treacherous deceptions unsuspected, and consequently most certain of success.

About this time, I understood from Mrs. Rudd, that she had been introduced, and recommended in the strongest manner by Mr. James

to Mr. William Adair, who had undertaken to be the agent for the first mentioned gentleman in our affairs, in order to prevent future uneasiness in his family, from what he meant to do for us. She said also, that the last mentioned gentleman, had espoused her interest in the warmest manner, and promised to add his own friendships to those of Mr. James Adair, because, according to her, he seemed to think himself urged to repair the ill usage she had received from his relation, Mr. Robert Adair.

The latter end of April 1774, Mrs. Rudd brought me my youngest daughter, and soon after she was up again, she delivered me a letter from Mr. William Adair, directing me to give up my house in town, and take Mrs. Rudd into the country for the benefit of the
air;

air; saying at the same time, that Mr. William Adair had directed her, to desire me to return the joint bond from himself and Mr. James Adair for 5000*l*. as she said, a resolution was now taken to place me in the banking business in the course of this year; and that Mr. William Adair proposed also to procure me a seat in parliament, for which purpose he should be obliged to collect all the money he could. I therefore delivered the bond according to Mr. William Adair's desire, and I conceived she returned it to Mr. William Adair.

Just before I removed into the country, in compliance with the directions Mrs. Rudd had brought me from Mr. Wm. Adair, she produced 200*l*. which she said, Mr. James Adair had presented her with, in order to make an addition of plate to our side-board; mentioning the particulars

particulars which that gentleman desired might be bought, which were accordingly chosen and purchased by Mrs. Rudd.

When we removed into the country, Mrs. Rudd told me it was Mr. William Adair's directions to continue the house in Pall-Mall Court, at a weekly expence, giving as his reason, that it would be more convenient for him to meet Mrs. Rudd, and transact the affairs which regarded us there, as it could be done without its being publicly known by his friends that he was in town.

I cannot be certain as to the exact time, but as well as I can recollect, about this period Mrs. Rudd produced a letter from Mr. William Adair, desiring I would procure him a sum of money upon bond. It was directed to be done in the most private manner, as Mr.

William

William Adair would by no means have it appear that he was raising money. The necessity of this measure was said to arise from the arrangement he was making to fix me in the banking business, there was therefore the strictest charge given to borrow it only from such persons as had great confidence in me. It was also desired I would provide a bond or bonds for this purpose, in the same manner I had done before, when the joint bond for 5000*l.* was given. At this distance of time I can by no means state this transaction circumstantially and clearly; I therefore cannot positively say, for what specific sums the bonds were drawn; all I can recollect is, that I got Mr. Wilson to fill up two bonds payable to myself, and that I gave them, as I had before done the joint bond, to Mrs. Rudd, who as I conceived carried them to Mr. William Adair, and brought

brought them back, executed by that gentleman; and that my brother borrowed on them, the two sums of 3260/. and 4000/. from Mr. Mills, a banker in Birchin-Lane, which sums he gave to Mrs. Rudd, who as I conceived, carried the money to Mr. William Adair for his use. And I well remember, that these sums were, a week or ten days before the bonds became payable, brought by Mrs. Rudd, as she said, from Mr. William Adair, and delivered to my brother, in order to repay Mr. Mills; which was accordingly done by my brother, and the bonds returned to Mrs. Rudd.

It was also about this period, but my recollection will not serve me to fix the exact time, that my brother was desired by letter brought by Mrs. Rudd from Mr. Wm. Adair, to procure a further sum of 4000/. upon like bond from Sir Thomas Frankland,

Frankland, which was done in like manner; the money was given to Mrs. Rudd, and as my brother and myself conceived, carried by her to Mr. William Adair, and as I recollect, brought back by Mrs. Rudd, before the time the bond became payable, and delivered to my brother in order to repay Sir Thomas Frankland, which was done, as well as I can remember, in the month of August following.

In the beginning of June 1774, Mrs. Rudd told me, that our family were from henceforth to expect all marks of friendship immediately from the hands of Mr. William Adair; that the allowance of 800*l.* per annum, from Mr. James Adair was now to cease, and that Mr. W. Adair from this period had fixed it at 1500*l.* per annum; which as she said, was 1200*l.* allowed for our general expences, and 300*l.* for the

particular expences of Mrs. Rudd's and the children's cloaths, &c. This allowance, according to Mrs. Rudd's account was the interest of 30,000/. which sum, she said, had been determined should be given us, and charged upon the estate of Mr. William Adair, for which sum from this period, he had said, he would allow us an interest at the rate of 5% per cent. I must confess, this astonishing mark of friendship surprised me; but I conceived it to be the joint benevolence of both the Messrs. Adairs; and as she had already given me, as I conceived, so many indisputable proofs of the uncommon friendship of Mr. James Adair. I was far from suspecting her veracity in this particular; and as she frequently told me that Mr. William, like Mr. James Adair, was determined to admit of no interview until our whole establishment was finally settled, I forbore even to urge the point

point of paying my acknowledgments to him; and I presume it will hardly be supposed, that any other person, in my situation, who had been led on by degrees of artful deception to such a point, would have acted otherwise. And as I found afterwards, that this additional allowance was regularly paid to Mrs. Rudd, and by her produced to me, it will surely be granted, that I had every reason to repose the most implicit confidence in every thing she told me.

During our stay in the country, Mrs. Rudd produced me a letter from Mr. William Adair, directing me to purchase a house, and specifying the situation to be near Cavendish-square, limiting the price not to exceed 2600*l*. I came to town several times on this business, but was not able to find a house in the prescribed situation, wherefore I was, by another letter

from Mr. William Adair, desired to purchase a house situated in Harley-Street, from Mr. Collins, a builder, the price of which was to be 4000/. Mrs. Rudd pretended to be obliged to go to town frequently, to meet Mr. William Adair on this affair, and on her return one day, she presented me with a letter from Mr. William Adair, enclosing a draft for 19,000/. on Mr. Crofts in Pall-Mall, payable one month after date: this draft, she said, was to make part of the capital intended to be a fund for the banking business; and I was ordered to receive the money when the draft became due, and keep it for that purpose, as Mr. W. Adair, she said, would be out of town, at the time this draft would become payable. This circumstance was in the month of July, but before the draft did become payable, she informed me, that Mr. Adair was returned, giving me a letter from him, wherein he desired the draft might

might be returned: I was at the same time informed, by her, that he had purchased an estate for me, in the county of Suffolk, which was intended for a qualification for my proposed seat in parliament. She told me the name of this estate was *Worthling Manor*, with several other minute particulars concerning it, and that it had cost 13,000/. On the receipt of the beforementioned letter, I gave Mrs. Rudd the draft for 19,000/. which I understood she returned to Mr. William Adair.

During our stay in the country, which was three months, Mrs. Rudd brought me frequent letters from Mr. William Adair, wherein the arrangement of my establishment was the subject he wrote about: he informed me I should be fixed in the business of a banker in Pall-Mall, and my brother be admitted as a partner in the house; that I should have a seat
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in parliament, and that as he had hopes of obtaining the title of baronet for me, he would, if he succeeded in so doing, encrease the fortune he meant to give to much more than 30,000/.

In the month of September 1774; we removed to town by Mr. William Adair's desire, who thought our situation prejudicial to Mrs. Rudd's health, and at the time of the dissolution of the last parliament, Mrs. Rudd gave me a letter from Mr. William Adair, wherein he told me he was going to Hinchinbroke, to treat with Lord Sandwich, that I might be elected to represent the town of Huntingdon in the new parliament. A fortnight past from the receipt of this letter, without my hearing any thing more of this matter, when Mrs. Rudd brought me another letter from Mr. William Adair, wherein he told me he had not been
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able to prevail on Lord Sandwich to depart from a previous promise he had made in favour of Mr. Womble. I was however flattered with the hopes of succeeding for some other place: it was insinuated that money might be wanted on this account, and that Mr. William Adair, would by no means break into the sum he had provided for placing my brother and self in the banking-business; and a letter was soon after brought me from Mr. William Adair, wherein he desired me to provide a bond whereon 3000*l*. might be raised, and I accordingly made Wilson fill up one for 3100*l*. payable to myself, and gave it to Mrs. Rudd as before, to take to Mr. William Adair to execute; she returned it to me the day after I had so given it to her, with the signature of Mr. William Adair thereto, and witnessed, as the joint-bond from Messrs. John and William Adair

Adair had been, by Arthur Jones and Thomas Hart. Both my brother and myself endeavoured to borrow 3000*l*. upon this bond, but it could not be done; however, as the borough could not be obtained the money was not wanted, and I therefore returned the bond to Mrs. Rudd, who, as I conceived, carried it back to Mr. William Adair, who I imagined would destroy it.

In the month of November I was directed by letter from Mr. W. Adair to treat with Messrs. Gregg and Lavie, for their house in Pall-Mall, in order to our settlement in the banking business, in consequence of which I gave a friend of mine much trouble on the affair, but Mr. Adair not approving of the terms these gentlemen proposed, the treaty ended.

It is necessary to observe, that my brother had been constantly persuaded
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by Mrs. Rudd to entertain great expectations from Mr. William Adair's friendship to him and his family. A compliment of 500/. was particularly promised to his youngest child, and he himself, as has been already observed, was to be admitted a partner in the bank which was now forthwith to be established. Mrs. Rudd said now, that there was to be a third partner joined with us, a gentleman in the city, a very particular friend of Mr. William Adair's, whose name was Mr. Edward Payne; adding, that Mr. Adair and Mr. Payne, had already purchased the house of Mr. John Douglas, in Pall-Mall, in order to make it the banking house.

About the month of November 1774, my brother was applied to by a message delivered by Mrs. Rudd from Mr. Wm. Adair, to borrow of Sir Tho. Frankland 5000/. upon bond,

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4000/.

4000*l.* of which Mrs. Rudd said was to pay for the house in Harley-Street; because, as she said, it was inconvenient for Mr. William Adair to pay the money for the house just at that time. My brother, in consequence of this application, wrote to Sir Thomas Frankland, who was then in Yorkshire, and by the return of post received a letter from Sir Thomas, desiring him to go to his banker's (Messrs. Batson and Co. in Lombard-Street) and they would, as he had already directed them, pay him the money on his leaving his note of hand and Mr. Adair's bond for the sum. My brother communicated the contents of this letter to Mrs. Rudd, who said she informed Mr. Adair thereof, and that he requested my brother would provide a bond for the sum, for him to execute; this my brother did, according to Mrs. Rudd's directions, and gave it to her to carry to Mr. Adair, for him to execute:

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The next day Mrs. Rudd returned this bond to my brother duly executed, and he went directly to Messrs. Batson and Co. and received the 5000 $\text{\textsterling}$. Mr. Adair had desired him to procure, which I saw him deliver to Mrs. Rudd, and she immediately went with it, as I conceived, to Mr. William Adair.

The next day Mrs. Rudd brought me 800 $\text{\textsterling}$ from Mr. William Adair, which she said, he had given her for the purpose of paying our house expences, and such parts of the household furniture, for the new house we were to purchase in Harley-Street, as would require to be paid for in ready money. Sometime after, Mrs. Rudd told me, that Mr. William Adair required her to let him have 100 $\text{\textsterling}$. which I instantly gave back to her, for Mr. Adair. Mrs. Rudd said, when she carried the 5000 $\text{\textsterling}$. to Mr. William Adair, that he gave as a reason

reason why he kept 4200*l.* thereof, was, because the house was not quite completed, and that he did not chuse to pay Mr. Collins until he finally fulfilled his contract, and would therefore apply this money to some other use.

About the month of December last, Mrs. Rudd gave me a letter, as I conceived, from Mr. William Adair; wherein he desired me to procure him 2000*l.* for a few weeks upon a bond, which he informed me, he had given to Mrs. Rudd; mentioning in his letter, that it was Mrs. Rudd's opinion, that Dr. Brooke would spare the money for the short time he wanted it.

I was much surprized when Mrs. Rudd produced the bond, to find it was the same, which had been prepared to raise money, in case it should be wanted, for the borough;
because

because I conceived, that Mr. Adair had destroyed it. It was also exceedingly disagreeable to me to ask the Doctor to lend the money wanted, as my brother had before borrowed some money from Dr. Brooke for Mr. Adair, which he had not been punctual in the time of repaying. I gave this as a reason to Mrs. Rudd for my unwillingness to ask Dr. Brooke this favour; and told her, that I conceived, the sum wanted was more than the Doctor had to lend.

But Mrs. Rudd assured me, she knew Dr. Brooke had many Air bank bonds by him, and that she was persuaded he would have no objection to lend them upon Mr. Adair's security. But as I could not persuade myself to ask the Doctor, I begged of her to make a proper apology to Mr. Adair for my refusal.

Mrs.

Mrs. Rudd was exceedingly dissatisfied, and urged me to ask it of some other friend, mentioning the names of several gentlemen in the city, with whom she knew I was acquainted; but I still refused.

After this, some days passed without Mrs. Rudd saying any more to me on the subject, after which she brought me a small note from Mr. Adair; wherein he urged my speaking to Dr. Brooke, and seemed to reproach me with inattention to his desires.

This compelled me in the most forcible manner to transact this affair, if possible: wherefore I went directly to Dr. Brooke, and requested him to lend me 2000*l*. He said, he had not any money, and I then mentioned the Air bank bonds Mrs. Rudd had informed of, desiring he would spare them, and they should be

he returned very soon; telling him, that I understood from Mrs. Rudd, that Mr. William Adair wanted that money for no more than eight or ten days. I also frequently repeated to the Doctor, that I was exceedingly unhappy in being obliged to ask this of him, but that Mrs. Rudd had urged it so strongly as Mr. Adair's desire, that I was not at liberty to refuse; but declared to the Doctor, that I knew not what the money was wanted for.

Dr. Brooke now very willingly lent me 1500*l.* in Air bank bonds, for which I gave him my note, and at the same time left with him Mr. Adair's bond.

I gave the Air bank bonds to Mrs. Rudd, who, as she told me, had them converted into bank-notes, which she delivered to Mr. Adair.

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It is necessary to observe, that when I gave this bond to Dr. Brooke, it was very near being payable, and that it remained in his hands two months after it was payable.

Soon after this circumstance, I was assured by Mrs. Rudd, that the money which Mr. Adair had requested my brother and self to borrow from Sir Tho. Frankland and Dr. Brooke, had been employed for the purpose of making up a sum of 60,000*l*. which the King desired to borrow from him to pay the Duke of Glocester's debts. She also said, at the same time, that Mr. William Adair had been introduced by Lord Suffolk to his Majesty, on the subject of obtaining the title of Baronet for me, and had even had several conferences with his Majesty on the subject. She declared also, that his Majesty had actually been pleased to speak to Lord and Lady Gower
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concerning the family Mr. Adair wished to serve, and that Lord Gower had visited Mr. Adair on the occasion. There were at this time two cards shewn me by Mrs. Rudd, which she said had been left by Lord and Lady Gower, who had, as she assured me, made their visits to us; and soon after she shewed me two more cards, in the names of Lord and Lady Gallo-way.

The house in Harley-Street being now quite ready, the payment could be no longer delayed, and as Mr. Adair had employed the money in the way I have already mentioned, he desired that my brother would borrow 4000*l.* more upon bond from Sir Thomas Frankland; my brother therefore procured a bond to be filled up, and gave it to Mrs. Rudd to carry it to Mr. Adair for him to execute; and sometime after return-

ed it to my brother duly executed, who then went to Sir Thomas Frankland, and having received his draught for the 4000 $\text{\textsterling}$. brought it, and gave it to Mrs. Rudd in my presence, who as she told me, carried it to Mr. William Adair, from whom she brought it back to me, with directions to pay Mr. Collins for the house.

This was the 24th of December, and the Monday following being fixed for the payment of the money to Mr. Collins, I went early into the city, and received the money for the draught from Messrs. Batson's and Co. bankers in Lombard-Street, and from thence went to Mr. Hickey's, an attorney, in St. Alban's-Street, where the parties had appointed to make the assignment; but it happening to be inconvenient to Mr. Collins's attorney, who had sent to excuse himself from coming, I therefore

fore lodged the money with Messrs. Biddulph and Cocks, bankers, at Charing-Cross, till the holydays were over, when Mr. Collins made the necessary conveyances, and received his money.

About the middle of January 1775, we went into our new house in Harley-Street, and soon after Mrs. Rudd brought me a letter from Mr. William Adair, giving some directions with regard to the plan of my establishment, and added, that as soon as we were a little settled, both Mr. James and Mr. William Adair would visit me; but strictly charged me that when this happened, I was by no means to introduce the subject of money, or make my acknowledgements for their friendship; particularly to Mr. James Adair, as they had both particularly insisted, and the last mentioned gentleman

most strenuously, that this might not be done until my establishment in business was finally settled and finished.

I was in a short time after this told by Mrs. Rudd, that Mr. William Adair had been to visit her ; that he had seen the house, and very much approved of the manner in which I had furnished it, and said, he had told her that he would in a short time visit me without ceremony. I was also told by my servants that Mr. William Adair had called to visit me, but not finding me at home he staid a little time in the nursery with the children, and then went away. It is also necessary to observe that that deceitful woman had frequently ordered her servants to call her out of company to Mr. Adair, and to deliver to her in my presence fictitious letters and messages from that gentleman,

man, as I have since this affair transpired discovered; and that my servants, by her orders, had frequently told me, that Mr. William Adair had often been at my house; and I was made to believe that he often ordered the children to be brought to see him, all which I now find were nothing but artful contrivances of this treacherous woman to impose on me.

But in the beginning of February last Mr. J. Adair actually made me a visit. This was the first time I had seen him at my house; and although it did the utmost violence to my feelings, I strictly observed Mrs. Rudd's charge, and refrained, though with much forcing of my disposition, from making those acknowledgements with which my grateful heart overflowed. I solemnly protest I looked on him at this time with the most affectionate reverence,
and

and thought myself indebted to him for all those blessings I already had, and as I conceived was about to derive from his most singular benevolence. When I expressed my happiness in having at last seen our great benefactor Mr. J. Adair, Mrs. Rudd replied, that Mr. W. Adair would likewise visit me the following week, which however he did not.

About the third of March last, Mrs. Rudd and myself dined with my brother at his house, and stayed till ten o'clock; when we came away, we engaged ourselves to dine again there the following day; as soon as I came home, Mrs. Rudd's waiting maid, Elizabeth Perkins, brought her a letter, which was in the same hand writing of all the other letters, which I had seen brought to her from Mr. Adair; and such as Mrs. Rudd had used to deliver to me from that gentleman.

man. She asked her maid at what time the letter was brought; who replied, about nine o'clock.

I asked Mrs. Rudd what were the contents of this letter? She told me, that Mr. Adair had directed her, to require my brother would procure him 5000*l.* upon his (Mr. Adair's) bond. Mrs. Rudd observed, that Mr. Adair had expressed a wish, that my brother should borrow the money of Mr. Henry Evans. When my brother called in at our house the next morning, the 4th, Mrs. Rudd communicated the contents of this letter to him: both my brother and myself expostulated on the impropriety of this application to Mr. Evans; and my brother declaring his absolute determination, not to speak to Mr. Evans on so disagreeable a subject, she desisted from urging the matter any further at that time. But some time

time after, in the course of the same day, she renewed the subject, saying, she had since seen Mr. William Adair, who said, he by no means wished my brother to do any thing which might be painful to him, but proposed to him, to endeavour to borrow the money from Mr. Drummond; and to obviate the objection which my brother made to this measure also, she said, Mr. Adair desired that the 1400*l* for which the writings of Mr. Daniel Perreau's house were mortgaged, might be paid out of the 5000*l*. so borrowed. My brother at last with difficulty complied, and, by Mrs. Rudd's directions, procured a bond for 7500*l*. to be filled up for Mr. William Adair to execute; which bond my brother delivered to Mrs. Rudd the same evening in my presence, and in the presence of his wife and of Mr. Cassidy his assistant, with this expression, "*Madam there's your affair;*"

fair;" which she put into her pocket without any reply. Mrs. Rudd and myself left my brother's house, and returned home about ten o'clock at night, but no conversation passed between us concerning this bond, that night nor the following day, which was Sunday, when Dr. Jackson, Dr. Brooke, my brother and his wife, dined with us. On Monday the 6th, I rode out after breakfast, between ten and eleven o'clock, returned at half past two o'clock; from which time I was employed in dressing, until the arrival of Mr. Evans, his wife and family, Mr. Hammond, his sister and family, who with my brother and his wife, dined with us, and stayed with us till near eleven o'clock at night. This was the night, Mrs. Rudd has falsely sworn I compelled her to sign the name of Mr. Adair, &c. to the bond now before the court. Immediately after the departure

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of the company, Mrs. Rudd went up stairs to her dressing-room, in order to prepare herself for bed, and I went down stairs into my study, for the same purpose. In about half an hour I went up to bed, and going into Mrs. Rudd's dressing-room, I observed a letter lying on the table, I enquired what it was, and she gave me to understand, it contained the bond for 7500*l.* payable to my brother, which Mr. Adair had executed, and that it had been brought to her by Elizabeth Perkins, her waiting maid, to whom it had been delivered by Francis Garbery, who received it from Mr. Adair; this was all the conversation that passed concerning it that night. The next morning Mrs. Rudd arose about eight o'clock, a very unusual hour for her, who was seldom up before ten. I asked her the reason of her getting up so early, and she told me, she expected

expected a person upon business ; on this account, I rose sooner than I intended, and came down about an hour after her ; when I understood, she had sent a servant for my brother, who came soon after ; when Mrs. Rudd delivered to him the bond, which was now folded in a piece of brownish paper, out of which my brother took it, and read it over to himself, saying, "*This is a very unpleasant business, I wish Mr. Adair would not trouble me with it,*" or words to that import ; to which I replied, that it was disagreeable ; but that Mr. Drummond would not dislike such paper ; the security was too good. My brother answered, *it was nevertheless very unpleasant business ;* then put the bond in his pocket, and all conversation concerning it ceased. After breakfast was over, I went out to ride, and returned about three o'clock to dinner ; when

I found Mrs. Rudd in my study. Captain Ellys and my brother dined with us, and went away about nine o'clock; when Mrs. Rudd informed me, that my brother had been with Mr. Drummond concerning the money Mr. Adair wished him to advance on the beforementioned bond. That Mr. Drummond had expressed some doubts, concerning the hand writing subscribed to the bond, being really that of Mr. W. Adair's. That this circumstance had made my brother very uneasy, but that she had since taken an opportunity of seeing Mr. Adair on that subject, who expressed the exceeding great unhappiness he felt on the occasion; and had given her a letter, which she said, she had delivered to my brother, and that in consequence thereof, his mind was now more easy. On Wednesday morning, my brother called at my house in Harley-Street, and asked

ed for the draft for 5000*l*. from Mr. William Adair, on Mr. Crofts; saying, that as his business had called him into the neighbourhood, he called now for it; that if it so happened he should want it, he might thereby save himself the trouble of coming so far again. Mrs. Rudd told him, that Mr. Adair had not sent it, but that she would call upon my brother to know, if after he had again seen Mr. Drummond, he would want it; and in that case would go to Mr. Adair for it. I had not yet heard any thing of this matter, wherefore I enquired of Mrs. Rudd, in the presence of my brother, concerning it; and she then told me, that in the letter she had before acquainted me she had given to my brother, Mr. Adair had promised, that if any further difficulty arose with Mr. Drummond, he would send Mrs. Rudd, a draft on Mr. Crofts, for the sum wanted;

wanted; and that in the conversation she had with Mr. Adair on this subject, he said, that although it was very inconvenient for him to raise the money by any other means than the proposed bond; yet rather than my brother's mind should be made further unhappy, he would settle it with Mr. Crofts, that his draft upon him for the sum wanted should be paid. This I again solemnly declare, is all the knowledge I had concerning this bond, which I believed to be truly genuine, valid and authentic, until I was sent for to Mr. William Adair's, where, when I arrived, I found the two Mr. Drummonds, Mrs. Rudd, my brother, and Mr. William Adair, who denied the bond to have been given by him, and disclaimed all knowledge or connection with Mrs. Rudd.

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It is impossible to express my astonishment at this occurrence ; when I asked Mrs. Rudd for an explanation of this matter, I could get no other satisfaction from her on the subject, than her constantly persisting to declare the innocence of my brother. She urgently entreated a private audience with Mr. Drummond or Mr. Adair, which was at first refused, but at length, from her repeated entreaties and ardent solicitation, it was granted.

When Mr. Drummond returned from the private room where Mrs. Rudd and he had retired, he signified his intention of troubling himself no farther in the matter, using words to this effect, ‘ That if my brother was an innocent man he had been made a very great dupe.’ To which my brother replied, by remonstrating against Mr. Drummond’s dropping the affair, while a
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suspicion of his guilt remained upon the mind of Mr. Drummond; my brother at the same time declaring, that as he was as innocent of every intention of guilt as man could be, he could by no means be satisfied, unless he had the justice done him to be thought so. To which Mr. Drummond replied, by desiring the money lent upon the mortgage of my writings might be repaid, and he would set his foot upon the affair.

We then left Mr. William Adair's house; and when I urged Mrs. Rudd to let me know the whole truth of this affair, she assured me, in the most solemn manner, that the bond was really given by Mr. William Adair. As she persisted in this, I determined to wait upon Mr. James Adair, in Soho-square, to ask him concerning it, but Mrs. Rudd prevailed on me to suffer her to wait on the gentleman first, declaring, that

that in her private conversation with Mr. Drummond, she had satisfied him that the bond was given to her by Mr. William Adair, and had assured them, that she believed Mr. Adair denied it only because my brother had asked Mr. Drummond for the money in a manner which might make it appear he was raising it for Mr. Adair.

At her return home from Mr. James Adair's, she told me that gentleman was so much shocked at the story, that he was unable to go on in having himself, which he was then doing. But that he had assured her, as he was to dine with Mr. William Adair, he would enquire into his real meaning. Not satisfied with this, I desired my brother to wait on Mr. James Adair, and know from him what could be the motive for Mr. William Adair to act in so extraordinary a manner as to deny
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his bond so publicly ; my brother accordingly went, and was informed by Mr. James Adair, that Mrs. Rudd had assured him that morning, that the bond was a forged one.

I heard no other particulars at that time ; nor did I know that Mrs. Rudd had charged me with compelling her to forge it till the Saturday morning following.

My own, as well as my brother's uneasiness of mind on this occasion, is inexpressible ; but nothing material occurred in this affair on the Thursday and Friday following, except Mrs. Rudd's having frequently proposed to us to leave the kingdom, which we constantly refused ; and I should presume to hope the not having done this, when no impediment prevented it, will argue strongly in favour of our innocence.

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On the Saturday morning my brother procured one of Sir John Fielding's men to bring Mrs. Rudd before the sitting magistrate in Bow-Street, having been advised so to do by his friends, whom his exceeding great uneasiness of mind had induced him to consult, concerning the measures he ought to take on this unhappy occasion.

I attended Mrs. Rudd, and on the examination before Mr. Addington, who was the magistrate then sitting in Bow-Street, the affair appeared so intricate that he thought proper to commit both my brother and Mrs. Rudd, for farther examination.

Being constantly backwards and forwards with my brother on this melancholy occasion, on the Sunday evening I was detained in the prison of Tothill-Fields Bridewell, where

my brother and Mrs. Rudd were also confined, by a warrant sent to the keeper, on the prosecution of Dr. Brooke; and on the Wednesday following we were all committed by Sir John Fielding and the other magistrates, who sat at the Guild-Hall, Westminster, in order to this trial; and although Mrs. Rudd had been the original person apprehended as the principal in this most wicked and fraudulent transaction, she was, notwithstanding, in consequence of my brother's information at the office in Bow-Street, by Sir John Fielding and the other magistrates, admitted, not only as an evidence against my unhappy brother and myself, but also to bail, although I must own myself at a loss how such a proceeding could be justified with any colour of law or equity.

Thus did this wicked and artful woman lead me gradually on, till she
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had at length involved me in the most irreparable misery and ruin. Since the explosion of this horrid train of iniquitous deception, the diabolical disposition of this bad woman, has most visibly appeared in her behaviour, and I have been, tho' unhappily for me, much too late informed, from unquestionable authority, of many circumstances in her conduct, which prove she has been long practised in the blackest scenes of guilt and infamy; wherefore I cannot help acknowledging that it now seems almost astonishing how I could have suffered myself to be so much imposed on. But when it is considered with what artful circumspection and plausibility, she proceeded step by step to involve me in this abyss of misfortune; that she was careful to give me from time to time the most seemingly substantial proofs of the uncommon friendship of Mr. James Adair, in the sums of money she

she produced ; that she used such
 means to prevent me from intro-
 ducing myself to this gentleman, as
 I presume would have had equal
 weight with every man in the same
 situation ; that the proofs she gave
 of the friendship of Mr. William
 Adair were apparently equally strong ;
 that these obligations from that
 gentleman, were motives sufficiently
 cogent to induce me to negotiate the
 matters I did to oblige him, which
 was, in effect, to serve myself. When
 all these matters are considered, and
 a just allowance made for that im-
 plicit, and unsuspecting confidence,
 which my strong and affectionate
 regard and fond love for her must
 necessarily impress me with, in re-
 spect to her fidelity and integrity,
 there surely cannot a suspicion arise
 in the breast of any candid man, that
 I have had the least participation in
 the guilt of this transaction, or a
 doubt remain in his mind that I have
 not

not, through the whole of this most iniquitous scene, been made an innocent dupe to the arts of this most abandoned woman, whose deception, treachery, and infernal wickedness, is perhaps unparalleled in the records of iniquity.

As it seemed necessary to be circumstantial in reciting the particulars of those transactions, whereby this artful woman contrived to involve me in this dreadful calamity, it has unavoidably drawn this narrative to a great length. I shall therefore intrude no longer than to express the satisfaction I have in being able to say, that this horrid scene of deception, treachery, and fraud, has not been productive of such pernicious effects to society as might have been expected. Happily on the whole there arises a loss of no more than 500*l.* which is suffered by Dr. Brooke. As soon as the bond upon which my brother

brother had requested Mr. Drummond to advance him 5000*l.* was discovered to be forged, I naturally concluded we had been equally imposed upon by Mrs. Rudd in all the rest, wherefore I gave my brother all the effects I could, to indemnify Sir Tho. Frankland and Dr. Brooke, the last of which gentlemen received effects to the value of 1000*l.* in part, to discharge the 1500*l.* he had lent; and Sir Thomas Frankland had an assignment of my house in Harley-Street, with the furniture and other valuables, which I conceive will fully indemnify him from any loss he may sustain on this unhappy occasion. This assignment was made after our commitment, and Sir Thomas Frankland appeared, at that time, to be so sensible of the innocency of our intention to defraud him, that he promised on his word of honour to deliver up the bonds.

DEFENCE.

D E F E N C E

My Lord, and Gentlemen of the Jury,

Reduced by a Series of the most artful Deception, to the superlative Misery of standing as a Criminal at this Bar, it would in some Degree moderate my unspeakable Affliction, might I be permitted to indulge a Hope, that the Confusion and Inaccuracy which must necessarily appear in what I now presume to offer, for the Consideration of the Court, would be attributed to that Distraction of Mind which must inevitably attend a most innocent Man, under Circumstances of such peculiar Distress.

Unhappily this distracting Anxiety of Mind, which is the natural Consequence of so terrible a Dilemma, renders me most unfit to urge what I have to offer in my own Vindication with such Propriety and Force as might render it most effectual; but although Elegance of Language and Per-

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spicuity

spicuity of Expression seldom flow from the
 Lips of a Man whose Heart is overwhelmed
 with the most poignant Grief, and whose
 Head is distracted by the Horrors of his Si-
 tuation; though the silent Tear is the truly
 persuasive Eloquence of acute Distress, yet
 when two such inestimable Blessings as Life
 and Reputation are at stake, I cannot re-
 frain from humbly entreating the Indulgence
 of the Court, whilst I endeavour to lay be-
 fore them, in the best Manner I am able,
 the real and true State of my Case; and I
 humbly trust in the Almighty, that the Evi-
 dence I shall produce, assisted by the Observa-
 tions and Remarks of the very able and learn-
 ed Council who have humanely afforded
 me their Support on this most melancholy
 Occasion, will induce you, Gentlemen of the
 Jury, to find such a Verdict as may, in some
 Degree, contribute to heal those deep and dan-
 gerous Wounds which my Reputation could
 only have received from the most wicked and
 treacherous Artifice, under a Mask of the ten-
 derest and most faithful Friendship, worn
 by a Woman, who by her specious Behavi-
 our, and the delusive Appearance of Virtues
 which she was in reality far from possessing,
 had so captivated my infatuated Affections,
 that

that I reposed the most unlimited Confidence in her Integrity, and sincerely regretted the Impossibility of a legal Union with her by Marriage.

I now too feelingly perceive the fatal Effects of a Weakness, which, however blameable, your Lordship will certainly admit has frequently seduced Persons, in all Ages, the most remarkable for their Uprightness of Heart: and I trust, when you reflect upon the great Frailty of Human Nature, that your Lordship will allow it to be a Motive sufficiently strong to induce me, at the Instance of a Woman in whose Favor I was so strongly prepossessed, to transact, without Suspicion, those Negotiations which, through her treacherous and unparalleled Wickedness, have brought me into my present deplorable Situation.

The vast Importance of my Exculpation will, I fervently trust, plead strongly in excuse for the Trouble I shall be obliged to give on this most unhappy Occasion; wherefore as I conceive it absolutely necessary to my Justification, I shall, with your Lordship's Permission, lay before the Court

a brief Narrative of all those steps, whereby this pernicious Woman contrived to lead me gradually on into a Labyrinth of such irreparable Ruin.*

Having thus shewn the horrid Train of fraudulent Deception practised by this wicked Woman; let me be permitted to declare in this most public and solemn Manner, that I am perfectly free from every Degree of Guilt through the whole of this most vile Transaction. Seduced by a misplaced Confidence in Mrs. *Rudd*, whose Heart I constantly believed the Seat of almost every Virtue, until I was most fatally undeceived, by finding myself plunged in an Abyss of Misery and Perdition, I too fondly credited the Stories of Messrs. *Adair's* uncommon Friendship, and really and truly believed the Bonds she produced to be genuine, authentic, and valid; for nothing but such fatal Conviction as is now before me could have persuaded me, that any human Being could at once be so weak and

* The whole of this Case and Defence was intended to be delivered in Court; the Case was therefore to have been introduced by what preceeds this, and after the Case had been read, the Defence was to have been continued in the following manner.

wicked to contrive a most artful Scheme of Fraud to raise considerable Sums of Money in order to apply to such irrational Purposes. I most solemnly protest, by all my Hopes of Happiness both here hereafter, that so villanous an Intention as defrauding any Person of their Property never entered my Heart; and I adjure the Almighty to so help me in my present most dangerous Situation, as I speak nothing but the purest Truth, when I declare, that so far am I from having had any Share in the Fabrication of these Bonds, or from having used any Means to compel or persuade Mrs. *Rudd* to write the Name of *William Adair* or of either of the subscribing Witnesses thereto, that I really and *bona fide* never had a perfect Sight of the one produced by Mr. *Drummond*, until I saw him produce it in the House of Mr. *W. Adair* in *Pall-Mall*: on the contrary, I solemnly declare, under the same Adjuration I have before used, that what I have already related, is, according to my best Recollection, all the Knowledge I have concerning that or any other Bond.

It is the peculiar Unhappiness of my Situation that the treacherous Woman with whom

whom I have unfortunately been connected, has been Mistress of such consummate Artifice, to transact even the minutest Matters, through the whole of this dreadful Business, with such Circumspection and Foresight, as to put it out of my Power to adduce any Thing more than presumptive Evidence in my Justification; I trust however this will be sufficiently strong; and that it cannot be supposed I was so totally lost to every Regard for my own Safety, as well as to every Principle of Honesty and Justice, to contrive and perpetrate, or even to participate in so horrid and irrational a Scheme of Villany; for unless I am conceived to be de- vested of every Degree of Understanding, it cannot surely be believed that I would have employed the Fruits of consummate Knavery with such sottish and extravagant Folly. The veriest Idiot could not have believed he could be suffered to provide Houses and Furniture and sit himself down with Ease and Tranquility to enjoy a Fortune obtained by such barefaced Villainy.— Imbecility itself would have been conscious that Detection and consequent Punishment must assuredly tread closely on the Heels of such enormous Guilt; and it must be
admitted

admitted that in such Circumstances the grossest Ignorance would have had recourse to Flight, as the surest Means of escaping Ignominy. May I not then presume to hope that your Lordship and the Court will think it more reasonable to believe me an innocent Man, than to suppose me so sunk in more than brutal Stupidity to be lost to every Sense of Self-preservation.

With respect to the Compulsion of Mrs. *Rudd* to forge the Signature of *William Adair*, &c. to the Bond now under Consideration, permit me fervently to entreat you, Gentlemen of the Jury, to be pleased to attend particularly to Mrs. *Rudd's* having had this Bond in her own Possession from the Time she falsely swears I compelled her to forge the Signatures thereto, until the Time she delivered it to my Brother. Let me earnestly desire you would seriously consider whether it is reasonable to believe that if such Violence had been used on my Part, she would the next Morning have arisen with Coolness and Composure to transact a Business which the Fear of Death only had compelled her to be concerned in? Does it not seem more natural to believe, that

that if this had been really the Case, she would either have destroyed the Bond or have informed some Person of the barbarous Treatment she had received from me the preceding Night; especially as so very fair an Opportunity presented itself the next Morning, when, as will be proved by sufficient Evidence, she was up, and down Stairs an Hour before me, and had the Bond in her Possession; yet this fair Opportunity she employed no otherwise than to send a Servant for my Brother; and when he arrived, which was near an Hour after, she not only calmly delivered him the Bond, but was urgent with him to procure 5000*l.* from Mr. *Drummond* upon it, for the Use, as she pretended, of Mr. *Adair*.

That my Innocence may more strongly appear, I would beg leave to submit it to your Lordship, whether the Bond in Possession of Dr. *Brooke*, although a Matter for future Investigation, might not with Propriety be now ordered to be produced; because the Signatures of *W. Adair*, &c. appear to me to be written to that Bond by the same Hand which subscribed them to the one now under Consideration; and
I pre-

I presume to appeal to your Lordship, whether if the Court shall coincide in this Opinion, it will not afford the best Ground for a strong Presumption, that the whole Guilt, in every Part of this iniquitous Transaction, lies with *Mrs. Rudd*.

Permit me also to recommend it to your Consideration, Gentlemen of the Jury, whether if you shall concur in this Opinion, that the Signatures to each of the Bonds are in the same Hand Writing, you can possibly believe I had recourse to the Violence *Mrs. Rudd* has sworn, in order to compel her to sign this Bond. Let me entreat you in the strongest Manner to remark, that you have already heard *Mrs. Rudd* disavow upon Oath * her having subscribed the Signatures to any Bond, except the one now before you; because if you shall be firmly convinced in your own Thoughts that the Signature of *William Adair*, &c. to each of these Bonds, is in the same Character or Hand Writing, your Consciences surely

* It is to be remarked, that this Indictment was not tried, and that this Defence was prepared upon the Supposition that *Mrs. Rudd* would declare upon Oath before the Court what she has so frequently done in private Conversation.

will not suffer you to credit her Evidence.

With respect to the uttering of the Bond to Dr. Brooke, I must beg Leave to represent to the Court, *that this Bond was in the Doctor's Hands before the Time Mrs. Rudd has sworn to have signed the Name of William Adair, &c. to a Bond, through the compulsive Fear of Death, wherefore, I would submit it to your Consideration, Gentlemen of the Jury, whether if you concur in the Opinion that the Signature to this Bond is wrote by the same Hand with that to the Bond produced by Mr. Drummond, you can possibly believe in your Consciences, that I was the Fabricator thereof?* And I trust, that when you have attentively and seriously considered, that Mrs. Rudd, although admitted an Evidence, and consequently out of all Dread of Danger from divulging the Part she has taken in this fraudulent Business, nevertheless, absolutely disclaims all Participation or Collusion between myself and her, in the Fabrication of any other, than the Bond produced by Mr. Drummond, you cannot possibly believe I uttered the Bond to Dr. Brooke, knowing it to be forged, especially if you attend to these Circumstances;
that

that the Bond now before the Court was in the Possession of Dr. Brooke, before the Time Mrs. Rudd has sworn to her having been compelled to sign the one produced by Mr. Drummond, and consequently could not have been imitated from that Precedent; and as she has cleared me of all Knowledge or Participation with her in the Fabrication of this Bond, by declaring on Oath, that she neither was privy to the Fabrication of, or wrote the Name of William Adair, &c. to any other than the Bond produced by Mr. Drummond; wherefore, if you concur in the Opinion, that the Signatures to both the Bonds are in the same Hand-writing, I trust you will do me the Justice to believe me to be, what I truly am, an innocent but most injured Man.

It is upon these Facts, which I with all Humility submit to the Consideration of the Court, that I presume to build my fervent Hopes, that you will find such a Verdict as may defend me from the dangerous Consequences of that Imposition, Treachery, and infernal Wickedness which has been practised upon me by this most abandoned Woman.

But I forbear to trespass longer on your Lordship's Patience, as I have no doubt but the superior Judgment and deservedly celebrated Abilities of my very eminent and learned Council, will direct them to point out, with infinitely greater Force and Propriety than I can do, those Circumstances in this unhappy Affair which will be most proper for the attentive Consideration of the Court; and I trust that their wise and judicious Observations, during the Course of this Trial, will have their due weight, and set my Innocence in a much more clear and strong Light than I myself could be able to do, was I even possessed of that Coolness, and Recollection which can only be an Attendant upon Minds infinitely more at Ease, than mine can possibly be conceived to be, under such melancholy Circumstances.

I cannot however conclude without expressing in the strongest Terms to your Lordship, the aggravated Affliction I have received, and the cruel Injustices I have reason to apprehend from the false and wicked Letters which Mrs. *Rudd* has thought proper to publish to the World. I humbly
conceive

conceive, my Lord; that the Indignation of this Court will be justly raised by a Proceeding so malicious, iniquitous and illegal; and that your Humanity will induce you to enter in some Degree into the Poignancy of those Feelings which the unparalleled Barbarity of Mrs. *Rudd's* Behaviour has caused me to endure. I have every Reason to believe, from the Candour and Benevolence of your Lordship and the Court, that you will feel the utmost Detestation for the inhuman Cruelty which has proceeded from the depraved Heart of this bad Woman, who with unremitting Malice still continued to indulge the transcendent Malevolence of her Disposition, by endeavouring to prejudice the Minds of the Public against my unhappy Brother and myself, notwithstanding we were both already become the Victims of her pernicious Intrigues, and likely to fall an innocent Sacrifice for her enormous Guilt. From the Time we were committed in order to this Trial, *and she most unaccountably admitted to Bail*, this unfeeling Woman, by a Multiplicity of Publications, equally malicious and impudently false, with the Letter purporting to be written by *her uncle Stewart*,
 who

who so far from being in *London*, most certainly has not been in *England* for some Years, has endeavoured as much as she was able, to insure our Destruction, by conveying the most unfavourable Impressions, with respect to us, into the Mind of every one who should read and believe the diabolical Falsehoods inserted in the Case she has impudently dared to impose upon the World.

But notwithstanding the utmost Efforts of her rancorous Malice, I humbly trust in the Almighty, that my Innocence will most evidently appear from the Evidence which will be produced in my Vindication, and that the Remarks and Observations of my very learned and eminent Council, upon every Part of this iniquitous Transaction, when assisted by the numerous Appearance of Persons of Condition, and the most respectable Characters in Life, who are now present, with the benevolent Intention to do me the Justice of declaring, in the most solemn Manner, to this Court, that I have, in their Opinion, constantly preserved a Reputation for Probity, Integrity, and Honesty, unimpeachable even by the Tongue of slanderous Malice,

Malice; this when contrasted with the real and true Character of *Mrs. Rudd*, which the Court will receive from Persons of the most unquestionable Veracity, will, I humbly trust, be sufficient to remove every unfavourable Impression which may have been imbibed from the unjustifiable Publications before-mentioned.

I should be exceedingly unhappy to be understood, from what I last said, to imply the least Doubt concerning the Impartiality or Integrity of any Person in this Court. Permit me, on the contrary, to declare in this public Manner, that I repose the firmest Confidence in the Uprightness, Candour, and Justice of each Individual thereof.

Give me Leave to conclude with my warmest and most grateful Acknowledgments to your Lordship, and the Court, for the indulgent Patience with which you have attended to this broken and unconnected Defence ; and with my sincerest Assurances to you, Gentlemen of the Jury, that I am most fully satisfied that the Honesty of your Hearts will oblige you to give a just and conscientious Verdict, according to the Evidence

dence which shall have appeared before you, and that your Judgment and Discretion will preserve you from being biaſſed by the Artifices and presumptuous Impudence of a moſt abandoned Woman, who has had the Address to impoſe, in the moſt fatal Manner, upon my unſuſpecting Innocence, by concealing a Diſpoſition truly diabolical, under ſuch amiable Appearances as faithful Friendſhip and the tendereſt Affection.

As I am, Gentlemen of the Jury, firmly perſuaded that an innocent Man may ſafely reſoſe the moſt unlimited Confidence in a Jury of his Fellow Citizens, I ſubmit my Life and Reputation, with the moſt perfect Reſignation, to the Reſult of your Determination.

F I N I S.